

Israel— an American Problem

BY JOHN M. HENSHAW

EVEN BEFORE the outbreak of hostilities there was growing unhappiness in the Promised Land of Milk and Honey. Travelling Jewish groups passing through Vienna and moving in opposite directions meet constantly in the Austrian capital—Russian Jews on their way to Israel and Jewish groups disillusioned with Israel on their way back to Russia. Vienna is the pivotal center of this round-about traffic because the Soviet leaders shun any public association with Israel that might arouse suspicions among the Arab masses about *sub rosa* Soviet-Israeli connection.

Currently some 2000 Russian Jews are allowed to leave for Israel each month. On the other hand, although only a trickle of homesick Russian Jews receive their visas back to Russia each month, several thousands of those back-to-Russia migrants now are stranded in Vienna, living in hovels sometimes for more than a year before boarding the eastward-bound train or airliner.

Those returnees bitterly denounce the glowing promises of good life in Israel which had caused them to pull up stakes and leave Russia. The returning emigrants said they consider it their obligation as former residents of Israel to "address to the Israeli Government a protest against the continuing fraud perpetrated against Soviet citizens of Jewish heritage and against world opinion."

Discrimination Against Coloreds

Ironically, the Russian Jews fare better in Israel than the Oriental Jews. The noted Jewish educationist and author, Dr. Alfred M. Lilenthal, writing in *Middle East Perspective*, recently stated: "Twenty five years after Israel's formation, one of her harassing problems still confronts her, namely, the treatment of the Oriental (Arab) Jews. While new immigrants from the Soviet Union, settling in 1972 at the rate of 3000 per month, are assigned apartments as soon as they step off the plane, thousands of poor families, who came twenty years ago and were first settled in shacks, are still confined to slum housing. These poor people are Oriental Jews who have been victimized by many varied discriminations. Their leaders, including Kochavi Shemesh, have been jailed because of having participated in protests of the Israeli Black Panther movement. Many of those Oriental Jews are the ones who were transported from Yemen in operation "Magic Carpet" and viewed the planes, as flying birds sent by God to transport them to the Promised Land.

These Arab Jews are educationally and socially backward, and many have been unable to pull themselves up by their bootstraps. Some of them cannot afford to send their children to high school, which costs about \$300 a year. It is estimated that 60,000 Israeli families live in poverty."

Israel's image as a land of religious and racial tolerance has been further shattered by deportation to the U.S. of

350 Negro members of "Black Hebrew" cult. The leader, Akheazer Ben Israel, charged that his group were persecuted by harassment, arrests and imprisonment "under the worst conditions imaginable."

The Taxpayers Pick Up the Bill

How does Jewish emigration affect the American taxpayer? Plenty. This year Congress appropriated \$50 million to aid in the resettlement of emigrants from Soviet Russia. From this appropriation the State Department's Agency for International Development handed the United Israel Appeal Inc., a private tax-exempt organization \$31 million to help Russian Jews. Another \$2 million was given to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration to cover loans for air charter fare for migrants from Austria to Israel and \$500,000 for assistance to Soviet migrants to countries other than Israel. From other previously-appropriated U.S. Government funds the United Jewish Appeal gave the New York Association for New Americans Inc. (another tax-exempt Jewish organization) \$595,317. This is to defray the cost of air transportation of Russian Jews coming directly from Vienna to New York.

John N. Mitchell, while Nixon's Attorney General, opened the floodgates for the unrestricted immigration into this country of Jews from Soviet Russia and Israel. Since 1948 over one million Jews passed through Israel en route to North and South America. 600,000 of this exodus are now in the United States, with over 100,000 of them in New York City alone, according to Haviv Sheiber, a prominent Israeli defector.

It has long been known by the U.S. intelligence agencies that Israel has been a transmission belt for Soviet spies infiltrating into the United States. Furthermore, while the U.S. Immigration Code denies entry into this country to members and former members of the

Communist Party, Soviet Communist Jews on the way here via Israel get their identity papers covertly laundered in Israel. This applies even to former KGB torturers. Ironically, U.S. taxpayers' largesse to Russian Jewish emigrants amounts in some instances to picking up the tab for Soviet espionage agents.

Paul Zuckerman, General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, estimated that it takes \$35,000 to provide the necessities for a family of four Jewish immigrants. No such largesse is extended by the U.S. Government to the internal migrants in this country, including to the overtly-stricken and often malnourished migrants from the Appalachian region.

Leon Dulzin, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Israel, chief beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal's funds, said his agency would require \$585 million to carry out its adaptation and rehabilitation programs. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger is now preparing a new U.S. aid to Israel program to be submitted to Congress.

Drop in the Bucket

The money appropriated for Jewish emigrants is only a drop in the bucket in the total of American taxpayers' funds and tax-deductible donations for Zionism that yearly flow out to build up Israel. Official figures show that the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) gave Israel economic aid from 1948 through 1971 \$1,346,000,000. In addition, the Export-Import Bank granted Israel credits and guarantees in the amount of \$494,890,656. Military aid to Israel is a classified military secret, but the former Israeli ambassador to Washington, Gen. Yitzak Rabin, boasted that during his four years in Washington he secured \$1,200,000,000 in military hardware. Late last year, Congress voted \$2.6 billion in additional aid to Israel.

The United Jewish Appeal in 1973 raised \$500 million in tax-free donations

and dozens of other Jewish organizations are soliciting tax-deductible donations for Zionism.

Where the Money Goes

In view of the billions of U.S. taxpayers' dollars and of the further several billions of dollars in tax-exempt donations why is it that the colored Jews in Israel are living in abject conditions and that so many Russian Jews find living conditions in Israel so intolerable that they want to go back to totalitarian Soviet Russia?

A prominent American Zionist who played a vital role in persuading Truman to recognize Israel in 1948 told the WASHINGTON OBSERVER NEWSLETTER off the record: "Only about half the money raised in this country for Israel ever reaches the poor people in Israel. Almost half of it stays right here in this country to cover overhead expenses, including Zionist propaganda and various forms of public relations. And some of it goes into the pockets of the campaign solicitors."

FREEDOM'S PHALANX

BY CURTIS B. DALL

Down from the Caves of Antiquity,
'Cross the Plains of vast endeavor,
Runs the Trail of the White Man's culture
To be held and honored, Forever!

Oft have the Stones of Adversity
Bestrewn that winding Trail,
Cast by the Forces of Darkness,
But cast to no avail!

The Phalanx of Truth, moving forward,
Will sweep that Path very clean
For the Leaders of men to go marching,
Marching towards Worlds, unseen.

Rally, to Truth's blazing banner
Long suppressed, by History's Bard,
And march-on to Sunlight and Freedom!
Come, Fight with the Iron Guard!

Calamity of Appomattox

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many of them—notably Boston and Philadelphia—seem to be sliding down to cow country level. No doubt this standardization will go on until a few of the more resolute towns, headed by New York, take to open revolt, and try to break out of the Union. Already, indeed, it is talked of. But it will be hard to accomplish, for the tradition that the Union is indissoluble is now firmly established. If it had been broken in 1865 life would be far pleasanter today for every American of any noticeable de-

cency. There are, to be sure, advantages in Union for everyone, but it must be manifest that they are greatest for the worst kinds of people. All the benefit that a New Yorker gets out of Kansas is no more than what he might get out of Saskatchewan, the Argentine pampas, or Siberia. But New York to a Kansan is not only a place where he may get drunk, look at dirty shows and buy bogus antiques; it is also a place where he may enforce his dunghill ideas upon his betters.